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Iran unveils homegrown dual-fuel locomotive engine

TEHRAN — Iran Heavy Diesel Manufacturing Company (DESA) unveiled the country's first dual-fuel locomotive engine in a ceremony on Sunday, the Transport and Urban Development Ministry's portal reported.

The unveiling ceremony of the 4,000-horsepower heavy engine was attended by the Head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways (known as RAI) Saeed Rasouli.

Speaking in the ceremony, Rasouli said that in the past few years, the quantitative and qualitative development of the country's railways has intensified and several provinces, including Kermanshah, Hamedan, Urmia, and Gilan, have been connected to the country's rail network. **→4**

Yoshihide Suga succeeds Shinzo Abe as new Japan PM

TEHRAN — After getting the backing of the majority of his party lawmakers and representatives, Yoshihide Suga, the chief Cabinet secretary of outgoing Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, is on the course to become Japan's new leader on Wednesday.

In a vote at a meeting of ruling Liberal Democratic Party lawmakers, he was elected as the party's new president, a move that paved the way for him to take over as Japan's new prime minister. The top government spokesman faced two rivals in the LDP vote. Former Defense Minister Shigeru Ishiba

and former Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida both contended against Suga but failed to receive the majority vote of the LDP. Suga, Kishida, and Ishiba received 377, 89, and 68 votes respectively.

Suga campaigned on keeping a balance between fighting the coronavirus pandemic and shoring up economic activities and unexpectedly won by a landslide in the LDP presidential election Monday. Abe imagined that Kishida would succeed him and the public initially favored Ishiba. **→2**

International Academy of Ceramics signs up as Iranian biennial "spiritual sponsor"

TEHRAN — The National Biennial of Contemporary Iranian Ceramic Art announced on Monday that the International Academy of Ceramics (IAC) has become the "spiritual sponsor" of the 11th edition of the showcase.

"As a major organization, the academy supports international events based on its constitution," he added and noted that the biennial has obtained the sponsorship with the help of jury member Jacques Kaufmann, the former president of the academy.

"The sponsorship is an international credit to the biennial," the president of the biennial, Hirbod Hemmat-Azad said in a press release published on Monday.

Based on an agreement with the academy, the biennial is allowed to publish its posters with the logo of the academy, he said. **→8**

By Mahnaz Abdi
Head of Economy Desk

Creating necessary infrastructure in industrial parks on agenda

Strengthening domestic production to achieve self-reliance is the most important program that Iran is following up in its industry sector in a bid to nullify the effects of the U.S. sanctions on its economy.

To this end, the current Iranian calendar year (began on March 20) has been named the year of "Surge in Production", and all governmental bodies as well as the private sector are moving in line with the materialization of this motto.

Regarding its significant role in the realization of the mentioned goal, the Industry, Mining and Trade Ministry has already defined its main programs for supporting the domestic production in the current year.

The ministry's seven main axes of the surge in production are going to be pursued under 40 major programs.

Developing technology and promoting knowledge-based industries, development of domestic production, managing imports and development of non-oil exports, improving the business environment, development of financing and investment and finally development of logistics are the seven major axes of the Industry, Mining and Trade Ministry's works in the present year.

In this regard, the development of industrial parks and supporting the units located in these areas is one of the major programs underway by the ministry.

While this program is being seriously pursued, lack of necessary infrastructure in the industrial parks is impeding their development, therefore, the creation of needed infrastructure in the industrial parks has been put on the agenda.

A number of measures have been already taken in this regard.

Earlier this month, the Iranian energy minister announced that water supply to the country's industrial parks will be expedited.

Reza Ardakanian said, "Water is properly supplied to the industrial parks in the regions, where there is no shortage in terms of water resources, but for the areas with lack of water resources, we have started a program to plug up the illegal wells and pay some percentage of the resulted savings to the governorates of the provinces to be allocated to supply water to the industrial units." **→4**

How U.S.-led Iranophobic propaganda contributed to Arab normalization deals with Israel

TEHRAN — In the wake of normalization deals between some Arab states and Israel, former and current U.S. officials sought to put the deals in the broader context of confronting Iran's influence in the region, a move seen by some experts as an attempt to propagate Iranophobia across the Arab world.

As Bahrain announced a normalization deal with Israel on September 11, Jason Greenblatt, the former U.S. special representative for international negotiations who played a major role in devising President Trump's "deal of the century", sought to convince the West that Iran, not Israel, is the major threat to peace and stability in the region.

"The Abraham Accord was motivated in part by an Arab and Israeli concern with Iran's unquenchable thirst for regional hegemony and nuclear weapons. While the UAE has said that the deal was not directed at Iran in particular, it is clear that the regional threat of Iran has

become the foremost point of common interest for the UAE and Israel, wrote the former American official in an opinion piece published by the CNN website on September 11.

He even went further to cast Iran as an "occupation" force in the region, instead of Israel.

Greenblatt stated, "Today, our focus must be on the 'Iranian Occupation': what I find to be the best term for Iran's sprawling influence across the region.... In the United States and western Europe, complaints about so-called 'occupation' have been misdirected for years against Israel. In reality, Arab populations have now developed a different concern: They recognize the brutal and devastating 'Iranian Occupation' in Lebanon, Gaza, Iraq, Yemen, and Syria."

Some experts and commentators believe that the U.S. seeks to expand its influence in the region by magnifying the threats allegedly posed by Iran. **→2**

U.S. protests: Protests erupt in Lancaster, Pennsylvania as police fatally shoot man

Black Lives Matter activists have taken to the streets of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, demanding "justice" for 27-year-old Ricardo Munoz, who was killed by police after he charged at an officer with a knife.

People have been flooding to the police station in Southwest Lancaster City, chanting "Don't shoot" and other BLM slogans after an officer-involved shooting earlier in the day.

Facing backlash over the shooting, Lancaster County District Attorney's Office released body cam footage from the incident. The video starts with a woman running out of the house screaming. In the next second, Munoz rushes out of the door with a knife in his hand and charges at the responding officer, with the latter firing several shots at Munoz, who then falls to the ground.

Munoz was pronounced dead at the scene. Lancaster DA said that they have been "investigating" the shooting to determine if the use of

force was justified, but noted that the preliminary investigation indicates that the knife-wielding victim posed a immediate danger to the officer's life before being killed.

District Attorney Heather Adams said that her office would release all other details pertaining to the incident "in a timely manner," urging protesters to "remain peaceful" since "violence and destruction of property will become headlines and serve no purpose for the safety and wellbeing of our citizens and neighborhoods."

The incident took place around 4:15 pm local time, as the officers were responding to an alleged domestic disturbance.

While there is nothing in the DA's message to suggest that Munoz was mentally incapacitated, activists have alleged that the man was autistic. Protesters have also accused police of leaving the his body lying in the street "for hours" before it was taken away.

Home-grown transplant medicine saves \$20m annually

TEHRAN — A knowledge-based company has succeeded to save up to \$20 million annually by domestic production of a drug needed for organ transplantation, according to the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology.

The domestic medicine, called Iminoral, is meeting 95 percent of the country's need and is prescribed to patients who have had a transplant, and it is responsible for suppressing the body's immune system so

that the patient's body does not reject the transplanted organ.

The annual production and sales value of this product in three doses of 25, 50, and 100 mg is over 600 billion rials (about \$14 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials) per year.

Iminoral is 40 percent cheaper than similar foreign samples, however, in several tests, its high quality has been approved.

With the support of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology and the Inno-

vation and Prosperity Fund, the necessary facilities for the development of production lines for this company have been approved.

Mohammad Reza Shanehsaz, head of Food and Drug Administration said in January that Iranian pharmaceutical industry and scientists are capable of producing any kind of medicine over a two-year period.

Iran also produced drugs confirmed to be effective in the coronavirus treatment, including, Remdesivir, Tocilizumab.



File photo

The day Siamand Rahman dazzled everyone

TEHRAN — September 14, 2016 is an unforgettable day for the history of Paralympic sports in Iran and the world.

Siamand Rahman lifted the unprecedented 310 kg in Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. And as everyone says, it will be very difficult to break this record for many years.

Throughout 2014-2016, Rahman broke the Paralympic world record nine times, including a pivotal moment in Rio when he became the first Paralympian in history to lift over 300kg — lifting 75kg more than his closest rival.

In the 2012 London Paralympic Games, he claimed his first Paralympics gold by lifting 280 kg in the men's over 107kg. **→3**

Abadan Museum Garden to be inaugurated in Sacred Defense Week

TEHRAN — A museum dedicated to the Sacred Defense (the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war) will be inaugurated in the southwestern city of Abadan on September 23 on the occasion of the Sacred Defense Week (starting September 21).

During the war, Abadan was besieged for 12 months, but never captured by Iraqi forces, until the Iranians broke the siege. However much of the city, including the oil refinery, which was the world's largest refinery, was badly damaged or destroyed by the siege and by bombing.

The museum will be a memorial for Iranian generations to come to promote the sacrifices and great deeds the previous generation did for the sake of Islam and Iran, ILNA quoted Gholamreza Shariati the governor-general of Khuzestan province as saying on Sunday.

There are such museums across the country including the Sacred Defense Museum and the Peace Museum in Tehran.

The Sacred Defense Museum showcases a patchwork of domestically-manufactured armaments such as rockets, tanks, and artillery pieces. The complex has vast garden areas, water features, and children's play areas as well.

The Tehran Peace Museum is a member of the International Network of Museums for Peace. The main objective of the museum is to promote a culture of peace through raising awareness about the devastating consequences of war, with a focus on the health and environmental impacts of chemical weapons. **→6**